

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Aramid fibrils having in the wet phase a Canadian Standard Freeness (CSF) value less than 300 ml and after drying a specific surface area (SSA) less than 7 m<sup>2</sup>/g and a weight weighted length for particles having a length > 250 µm (WL 0.25) less than 1.2 mm, wherein the fibrils are substantially free of fiber stems.
2. (Original) The fibrils of claim 1 wherein in the wet phase the CSF value is less than 150 ml and after drying the SSA is less than 1.5 m<sup>2</sup>/g.
3. (Previously Presented) The fibrils of claim 1 wherein the aramid is para-aramid.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing the fibrils of claim 1 comprising the steps
  - a. polymerizing an aromatic diamine and an aromatic dicarboxylic acid halide to an aramid polymer, in a mixture of N-methylpyrrolidone or dimethylacetamide and calcium chloride or lithium chloride, to obtain a dope wherein the polymer is dissolved in the mixture and the polymer concentration is 2 to 6 wt.%,
  - b. converting the dope to fibrils by using a jet spin nozzle under a gas stream, wherein the fibrils are derived directly from the dope and are not derived from a pulp, and
  - c. coagulating the fibrils using a coagulation jet.
5. (Original) The method according to claim 4 wherein at least part of the hydrochloric acid formed is neutralized to obtain a neutralized dope.
6. (Original) The method according to claim 5 wherein the  $\eta_{rel}$  (relative viscosity) of the aramid polymer is between 2.0 and 5.0.

7. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 2 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 1.
8. (Previously Presented) The fibrils of claim 1 wherein the aramid is poly(para-phenylene terephthalamide).
9. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 5 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 1.
10. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 10 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 1.
11. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 2 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 2.
12. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 5 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 2.
13. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 10 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 2.
14. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 2 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 3.
15. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 5 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 3.
16. (Previously Presented) A paper made of constituents comprising at least 10 wt.% of the aramid fibrils of claim 3.